

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eyes in the Sky: The Navy's Hawkeyes

-Author to speak on Naval Airborne Early Warning aircraft

(Norfolk, Va., August 19, 2004) – Visitors to Navy airfields watch them with great curiosity: airplanes with 24-foot radar rotodomes attached to the upper fuselage. They are the Navy's [E-2C Hawkeye](#) airborne command and control aircraft. If you have ever wondered about these strange birds, join us for a discussion about the valuable role they perform for the Navy.

A part of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum Lunch Time Lecture series, *Eyes in the Sky: The Navy's Hawkeyes*, will be presented August 26 by Leigh Armistead, a scholar, writer and retired naval flight officer who logged more than 2,000 flight hours in military aircraft including the E-2C Hawkeye, during a 20-year Navy career.

"Revolution in warfare is more often than not an evolutionary process," according to Armistead. "Airborne Early Warning has changed the way warfare is conducted and yet the importance of these systems and platforms are often overlooked," Armistead said.

"The quiet efficiency and professionalism are trademarks of the AEW community and it is usually only with their absence that leaders realize just how important these assts truly are," Armistead said.

The lecture and lunch are at the Harbor Club in Norfolk's Bank of America building. Cost for lunch is \$15. Those interested in attending the lecture and lunch may make reservations by calling (757) 322-3109.

Celebrating 25 years of operation this year, the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, on the downtown Norfolk Waterfront, is one of eleven U.S. Navy museums. Admission to the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and its chief artifact, USS Wisconsin, is FREE. The Hampton Roads Naval Museum and battleship are closed on Mondays. The Hampton Roads Naval Museum can also be accessed on the Web at www.hrnmm.navy.mil.

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NOTE: Media desiring to attend or interview Mr. Armistead or desiring more information about the Hampton Roads Naval Museum may contact Jim Moir at the [Navy Region Mid-Atlantic](#) Public Affairs Office. (757) 322-2858.